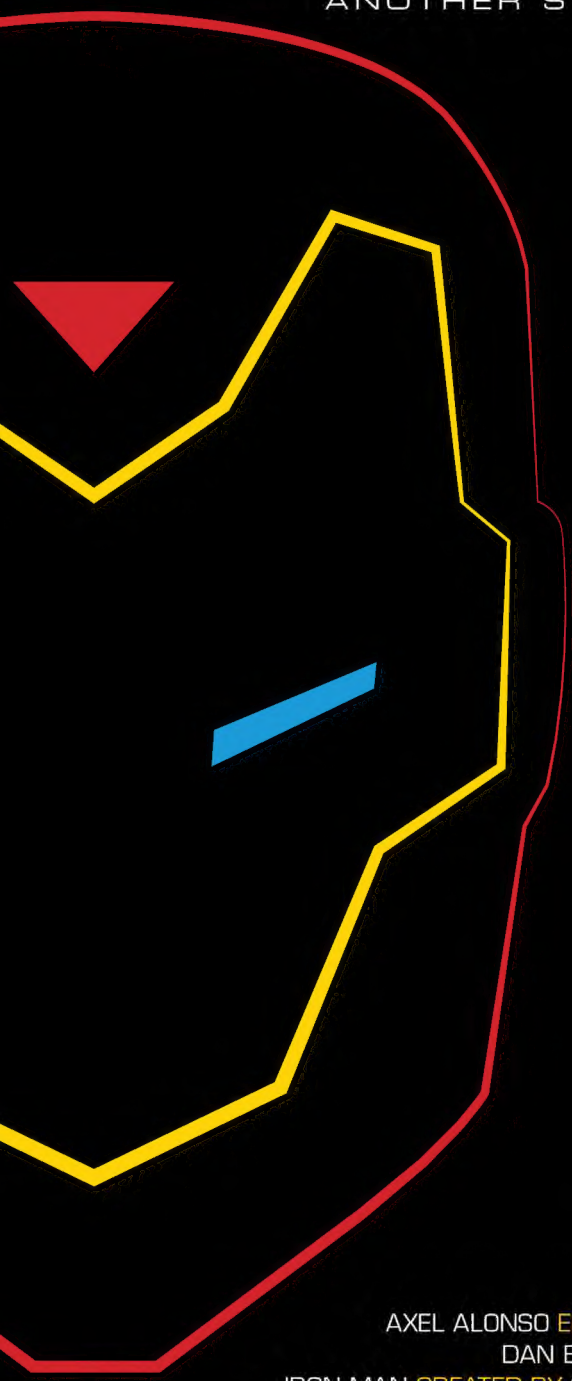
INVINCIBLE IRON MAN™ 14

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

ANOTHER STARK INNOVATION



Billionaire playboy and genius industrialist Tony Stark was kidnapped during a routine weapons test. His captors attempted to force him to build a weapon of mass destruction. Instead he created a powered suit of armor that saved his life. From that day on, he used the suit to protect the world as the invincible Avenger **IRON MAN.**

FRIDAY'S LOG:

RECENTLY COMPLETED AGENDA ITEMS:

- FIND OUT WHAT DOCTOR DOOM WANTS FROM YOU. [SUCCESS UNDETERMINED]
- WIN BACK AMARA AFTER FAKING YOUR OWN DEATH. [FAILED]
- CONVINCE CAPTAIN MARVEL THAT TRYING TO USE THE NEW INHUMAN, ULYSSES, TO PREDICT THE FUTURE AND STOP DISASTERS BEFORE THEY HAPPEN WILL ONLY LEAD TO MORE DEATHS LIKE RHODEY'S. [FAILED]

IN-PROGRESS AGENDA ITEMS:

- DON'T DRINK.

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WITH HAWKEYE ACQUITTED OF THE MURDER OF BRUCE BANNER--

STOP CALLING IT MURDER! IT WAS DECLARED AN ASSISTED SUICIDE.

THE LATEST DAILY BUGLE ONLINE POLL SHOWS APPROVAL FOR CLINT BARTON'S ACQUITTAL IS NOW AT A STAGGERING 94 PERCENT.

THE PRESIDENT WOULD KILL FOR THOSE NUMBERS.

HE MIGHT HAVE TO.

THE GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO PRAISED THE AVENGING ARCHER--

--CALLING THE HULK'S DEATH A MERCY KILLING FOR HIS ENTIRE STATE.

--MORE EYES ON THE INHUMANS THAN EVER BEFORE.

NOT MANY PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT JAMES RHODES' MEDAL OF FREEDOM HONOR EARLIER THIS MORNING.

THE PRESIDENT CALLED JAMES RHODES A "TRUE NATIONAL TREASURE AND AN AMERICAN HERO."

ANOTHER HONOR FOR COLONEL RHODES THAT TONY STARK DID NOT SHOW UP FOR.

JUST SPECULATION AT THIS POINT.

STILL NO WORD ON THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE FALLEN STARK TOWER.

VAGUE COMMENTS BY CAPTAIN MARVEL ABOUT A RIFT IN THE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY.

CAPTAIN MARVEL GAVE AN UPDATE ON HER BLOG.

RUMORS ARE HE BLAMES THE AVENGERS FOR RHODES' DEATH.

BUT HE **IS** AN AVENGER AND THEY WERE SUPPOSEDLY BEST FRIENDS.

EVERYONE MOURNS IN THEIR OWN WAY.

A DISGRACE.

MUTANT AND INHUMAN. IS THERE REALLY ANY DIFFERENCE?

X-MEN.

--NOT SINCE THE DAYS OF THE SUPER-HUMAN REGISTRATION ACT.

--PARTS OF THE STORY NO ONE IS TELLING US.

--ARRESTS WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION--

--TRIAL OF THE HULK IS OVER.

TONY STARK MAY KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE DEATH OF JAMES RHODES THE PUBLIC DOESN'T KNOW YET.

MAYBE THEY WERE MORE THAN FRIENDS.

SUPER HEROES ARE DROPPING LIKE FLIES.

--FIGHTING FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVE IN.

I DON'T REMEMBER A TIME WHERE THE HEROES ALL AGREED ON HOW TO BE HEROES.

SAM WILSON HAD THIS TO SAY--

IT'S JUST LIKE POLITICS.

NO ONE IS EVER GOING TO AGREE.

AND I THINK WE CAN AGREE WITH THAT.

--HOPING TO LAND A CLINT BARTON INTERVIEW.

NO ONE EVEN KNOWS WHERE HE IS.

CLINT BARTON.

CLINT BARTON.

HAWKEYE.

NEW IRON MAN.

M.I.T. STUDENT.

SIGHTINGS OF--

WHAT CAN I DO?
I THINK I NEED A MEETING.

MEETING WITH...?
OH, NO.
WHAT?
DANVERS FREQUENTS MY REGULAR MEETING AND SHE PROBABLY NEEDS A MEETING, TOO.
I CAN'T DO *THAT.*
I NEED TO FIND SOMEWHERE ELSE TO GO.
AN OPEN MEETING SOMEWHERE.

ARE WE TALKING ABOUT--?
I'M AN ALCOHOLIC, MJ.

OH, I THINK I KNEW THAT--
EVERYBODY KNOWS IT.
I'M A BIG, FAMOUS SUPER HERO AND I MADE QUITE A PUBLIC SPECTACLE OF MYSELF BACK THEN.

DON'T WORRY.
I HAVEN'T HAD A DRINK IN AGES.
BUT RECENT EVENTS...HAVE TRIGGERED--WELL, MY TRIGGERS FOUND NEW TRIGGERS.
I AM WAY OVERDUE FOR A MEETING.

PROBLEM IS I'M, AND THIS IS FUNNY IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT NOW, BUT... I'M CAROL DANVERS' *SPONSOR.*
IS THERE SOMEONE WE CAN CALL?
THERE. I THINK I FOUND A MEETING.
YOU CAN JUST WALK IN?
NO ONE'S GOING TO GO: "WHOA! IT'S THE WORLD-FAMOUS BILLIONAIRE SUPER HERO, TONY STARK"?

THANK YOU FOR STILL REFERRING TO ME AS A BILLIONAIRE.
WELL, I THOUGHT THOUSAND-AIRE WAS A LITTLE TOO DEPRESSING TO SAY OUT LOUD.
EITHER WAY, IT'S ANONYMOUS. IT'S ALCOHOLICS *ANONYMOUS.*

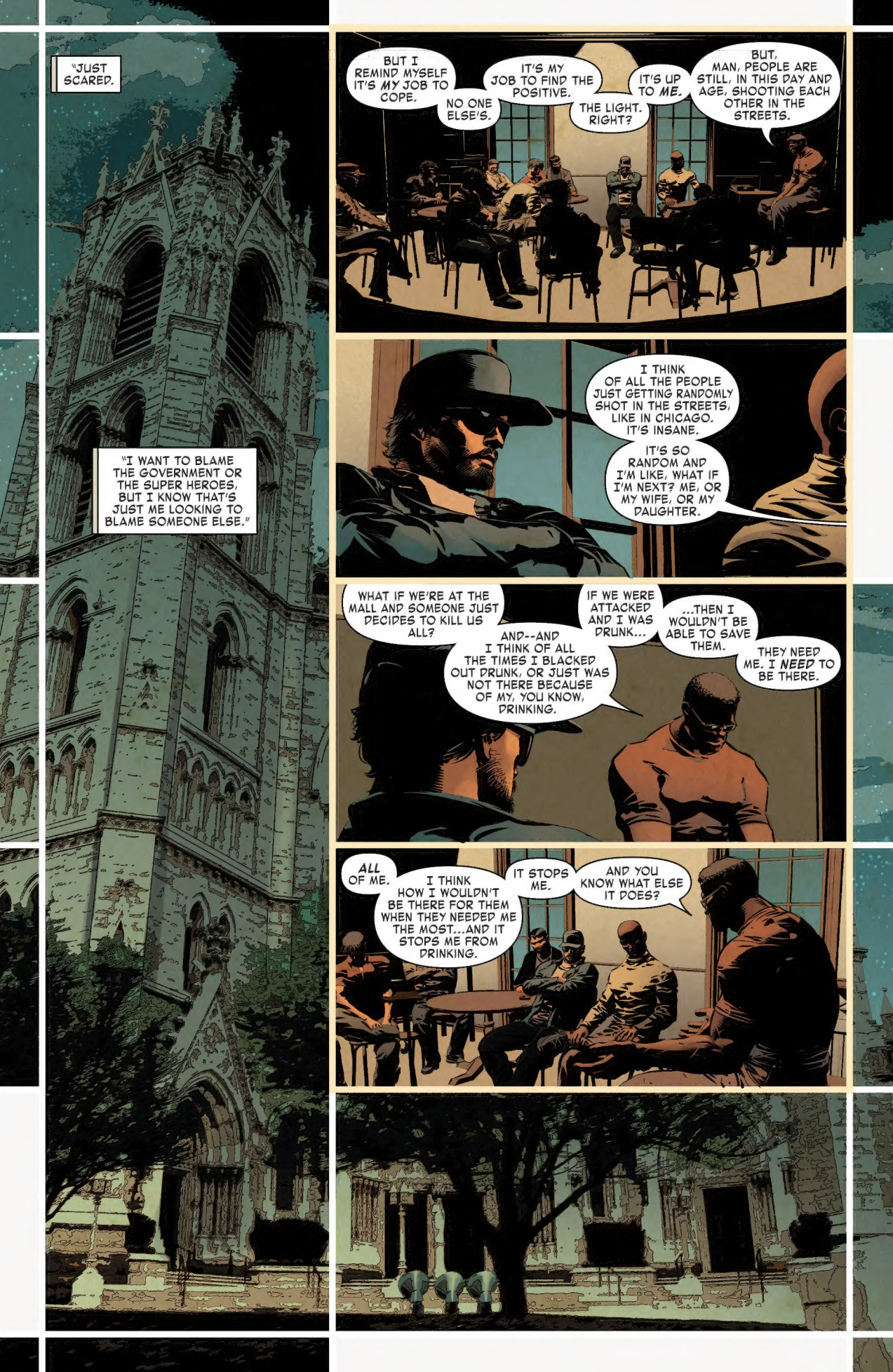
YEAH, BUT PEOPLE TEND TO SUCK.
NO, THEY DON'T.
YOU JUST LET SLIP THAT CAROL DANVERS IS IN THE MEETINGS.
WELL, *I* SUCK.
ON AVERAGE, *PEOPLE* DON'T SUCK.
ANY CALLS BEFORE I GO?

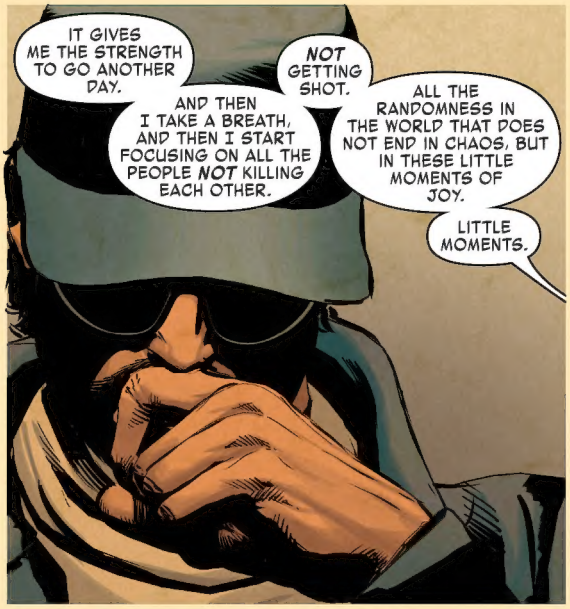
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? I HAVE 497 CALLS.
ANYTHING I CARE ABOUT AT THIS VERY MOMENT?
THE PRESIDENT CALLED.
ANYTHING ELSE?
THE PRESIDENT OF THE *UNITED STATES.*
I UNDERSTOOD.
HE SEEMED UPSET.
HE SHOULD BE. THE WORLD IS A MESS.
ANYTHING ELSE?

CAPTAIN AMERICA IS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
A DOCTOR HENRY McCOY CALLED TO SAY HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HANK McCOY CALLED AND SAID HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME?
YEAH.
HANK McCOY SAID THOSE WORDS?
YEAH. WHY, IS THAT--?
WEIRD.
A RIRI WILLIAMS CALLED ON THE PERSONAL HOTLINE.
OH, GOOD.
TWICE.
YOU GAVE HER THE HOTLINE?
YEAH.
WHO IS SHE?

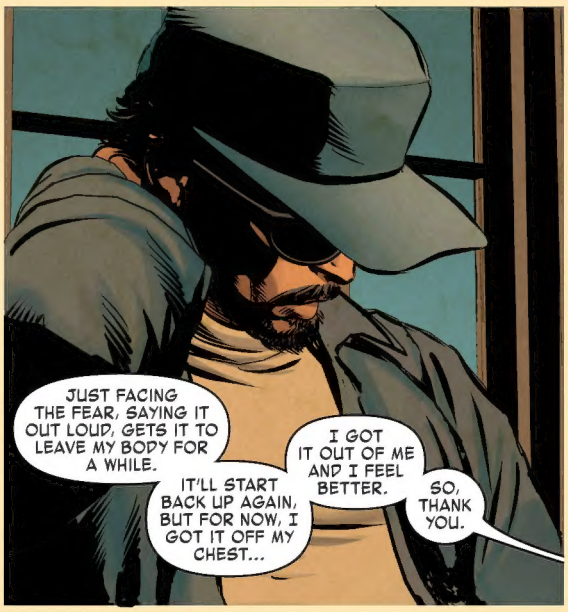
THE FUTURE.

"I WAKE UP SO SCARED.


"JUST SCARED.
"I WANT TO BLAME THE GOVERNMENT OR THE SUPER HEROES, BUT I KNOW THAT'S JUST ME LOOKING TO BLAME SOMEONE ELSE."
BUT I REMIND MYSELF IT'S MY JOB TO COPE.
NO ONE ELSE'S.
IT'S MY JOB TO FIND THE POSITIVE.
THE LIGHT. RIGHT?
IT'S UP TO ME.
BUT, MAN, PEOPLE ARE STILL, IN THIS DAY AND AGE, SHOOTING EACH OTHER IN THE STREETS.
I THINK OF ALL THE PEOPLE JUST GETTING RANDOMLY SHOT IN THE STREETS, LIKE IN CHICAGO. IT'S INSANE.
IT'S SO RANDOM AND I'M LIKE, WHAT IF I'M NEXT? ME, OR MY WIFE, OR MY DAUGHTER.
WHAT IF WE'RE AT THE MALL AND SOMEONE JUST DECIDES TO KILL US ALL?
AND--AND I THINK OF ALL THE TIMES I BLACKED OUT DRUNK, OR JUST WAS NOT THERE BECAUSE OF MY, YOU KNOW, DRINKING.
IF WE WERE ATTACKED AND I WAS DRUNK...
...THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SAVE THEM.
THEY NEED ME. I NEED TO BE THERE.
ALL OF ME.
I THINK HOW I WOULDN'T BE THERE FOR THEM WHEN THEY NEEDED ME THE MOST...AND IT STOPS ME FROM DRINKING.
IT STOPS ME.
AND YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE IT DOES?


IT GIVES ME THE STRENGTH TO GO ANOTHER DAY.
AND THEN I TAKE A BREATH, AND THEN I START FOCUSING ON ALL THE PEOPLE NOT KILLING EACH OTHER.
NOT GETTING SHOT.
ALL THE RANDOMNESS IN THE WORLD THAT DOES NOT END IN CHAOS, BUT IN THESE LITTLE MOMENTS OF JOY.
LITTLE MOMENTS.

AND WHEN YOU THINK OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD AND HOW RELATIVELY LITTLE MADNESS THERE IS... THAT REALLY IS AMAZING.
SO I GET THROUGH ANOTHER DAY.
BUT MAN, SOMETIMES IT'S SO HARD. SO, SO HARD.
BUT I DO FEEL BETTER JUST SAYING ALL OF THIS OUT LOUD.


JUST FACING THE FEAR, SAYING IT OUT LOUD, GETS IT TO LEAVE MY BODY FOR A WHILE.
IT'LL START BACK UP AGAIN, BUT FOR NOW, I GOT IT OFF MY CHEST...
I GOT IT OUT OF ME AND I FEEL BETTER.
SO, THANK YOU.

VERY NICE.
THANK YOU.
WHO WANTS TO GO NEXT?

OKAY, YOU. THANK YOU.

MY NAME IS CAROL.
AND I'M AN ALCOHOLIC.

HI, CAROL!

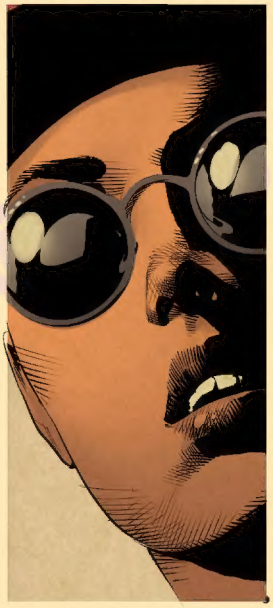
IT'S INTERESTING, WHAT HE JUST SAID.
I'M ACTUALLY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND I DO THE SAME THING.
YES, BECAUSE OF THE JOB, I TEND TO SEE THINGS AT THEIR WORST...
I SEE PEOPLE AT THEIR WORST, AT THEIR MOST DIRE.
I UNDERSTAND THAT MY PERSPECTIVE CAN BE WARPED.

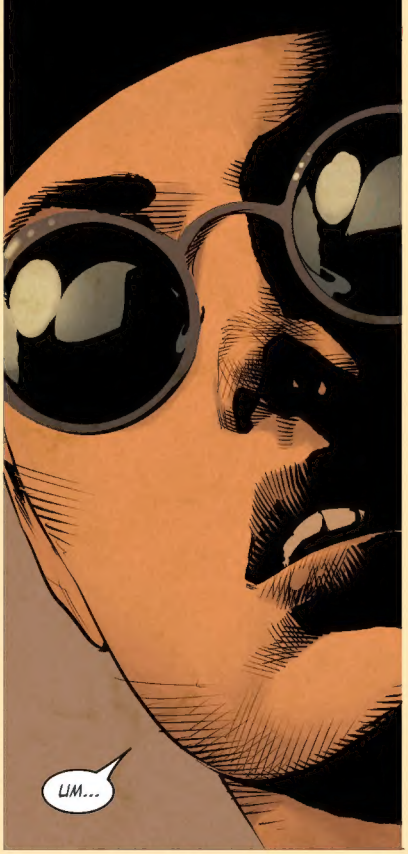
BUT I WAKE UP--THIS IS MY ROUTINE--I WAKE UP, I GRAB MY TABLET, WHICH I HAVE TAKEN TO SLEEPING WITH, I OPEN IT...
...AND THE FIRST THING I DO AFTER MY GLORIOUS FIVE HOURS OF SLEEP...
...IS LOOK TO SEE IF THE WORLD IS STILL TURNING.
TO MAKE SURE WE'RE NOT BEING DESTROYED.
TO MAKE SURE WE'RE NOT AT WAR.

THIS IS THE FIRST THING I DO.
I WAKE UP AND MAKE SURE THE WORLD IS STILL TURNING.
EVERY DAY.
AND IT HIT ME, THAT IS *INSANE.*

IT'S INSANE THAT--THAT THE WORLD IS SO *OUT OF CONTROL* THAT LITERALLY ANY DAY COULD BE THE LAST...

...OR THE BEGINNING OF A WHOLE NEW HORROR THAT WOULD--




UM...

UH, SO, I'M STILL SOBER.
THE WORLD IS A MESS.
I'LL FIGURE IT OUT.

TONY.
DID YOU KNOW I WAS COMING TO THIS MEETING?
COME ON, CAROL...

NO. BUT CLEARLY YOU DID.
I DIDN'T.
OH, COME ON.
YOU-- YOU HAVE ME HACKED OR BUGGED.

YOU'VE PROBABLY HAD ME WIRED SINCE YOUR DAYS AT--
I JUST NEEDED A MEETING AND WANTED TO RESPECT YOURS.
I THOUGHT--I REALLY WAS TRYING TO RESPECT YOU BY GOING SOMEWHERE ELSE--

I WAS TRYING TO DO RIGHT BY YOU.

SAME. ACTUALLY.

REALLY.
I NEEDED A MEETING.
THOUGHT IT BEST IF WE DIDN'T DO THIS.

ARE YOU OKAY?
NO.
I'M NOT OKAY, EITHER.
GREAT. WE'RE BOTH NOT OKAY.

BUT WE'RE BOTH SOBER.

YES.
WE'RE BOTH SOBER.

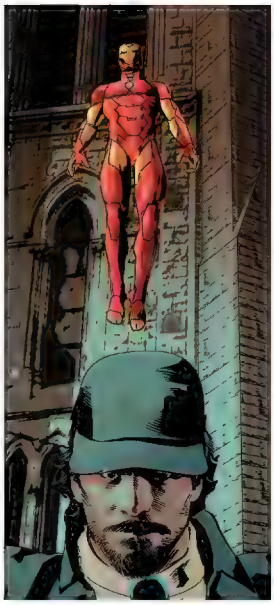
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

I WORRY.

YOU BLAME ME FOR RHODEY, AND THAT IS JUST--

DON'T.

YOU KNOW I WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING TO HURT HIM.
OR YOU.
OR--
AND YET, HE'S GONE.
WE'RE FIGHTING A WAR.
THERE WILL BE CASUALTIES.
YOU *KNOW* THIS. WE'RE SOLDIERS. KNIGHTS.
RHODEY WAS A SOLDIER.
I'M NOT A SOLDIER.
YOU *ARE!*
TONY, YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN.
ACTIVELY.
YOU NEED A RANK? YOU'RE A SOLDIER. FIGHTING.
DAMN IT, TONY.
THIS--THIS IS WHAT'S WRONG WITH US.
YOU THINK YOU KNOW BETTER!
STOP ACTING LIKE YOU'RE ABOVE US ALL...LIKE YOU'RE WORKING ON SOME HIGHER LEVEL.
YOU'RE *NOT.*
YOU LOST SOMEONE. IT HURTS. YOU'RE HURTING.
I'M HURTING.
HERE'S THE THING... I *AM* WORKING ON A HIGHER LEVEL.
I AM!
IT'S ARROGANT BUT IT'S TRUE.
SORRY.
MAYBE INTELLECTUALLY.
BUT EMOTIONALLY...?



OH, LOOK WHO JUST SHOWED UP WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH.
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF.
I CALLED THE ARMOR DOWN BEFORE YOU EVEN WALKED OUT HERE.
WHY WON'T YOU TRUST ME ON THIS THING WITH THE INHUMANS?

I TRUST YOU WITH MY LIFE.
THIS ISN'T ABOUT TRUST.
IT'S ABOUT RHODEY.
LET'S NOT FORGET BANNER.

I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT.
DIDN'T YOU?
YOU KNOW I DIDN'T.
AND IF YOU STILL DON'T...A COURT OF LAW CONFIRMED IT.

YOU OPENED THIS DOOR TO PEEK INTO THE FUTURE AND NOW MY FRIENDS ARE *DEAD*.
AND I HAVE NO ONE TO TALK TO ABOUT IT BECAUSE MY FRIENDS ARE *DEAD*.
AND IT'S BECAUSE OF *YOU* SO I CAN'T TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT.
I CAN'T EVEN GO TO A MEETING--
GO!
GO BACK INSIDE.

NO.
SIT DOWN.

REMEMBER WHEN WE USED TO FLIRT WITH EACH OTHER ALL THE TIME?
OH GOD, PLEASE DON'T.
NO.
I'M NOT GOING CREEPY.
TOO LATE.

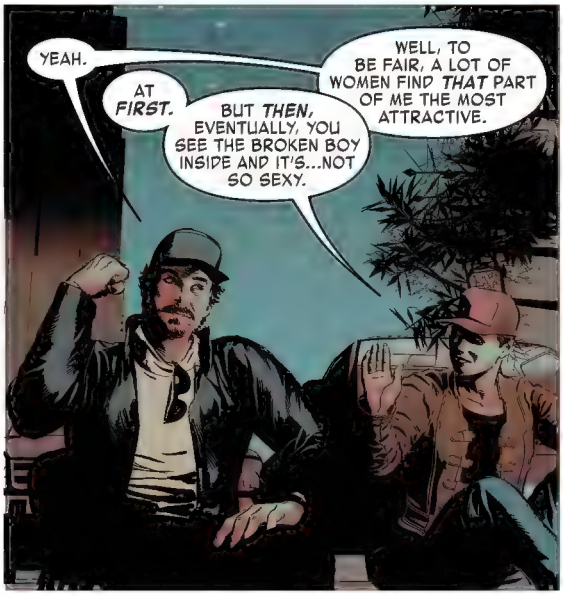
I DID IT BECAUSE I WAS *INTIMIDATED* BY YOU.
WHAT?
I WAS.
IT'S WHAT I DO WHEN I'M FACED WITH WOMEN OF AUTHORITY OR POWER OR BOTH.
I TURN ON THIS RIDICULOUS FAKE CHARM THING.

I KNOW.
YOU DO? WELL, IT TOOK ME YEARS TO FIGURE THIS OUT.
REALLY?
IT'S IN THE TOP THREE THINGS PEOPLE SAY TO DESCRIBE YOU.
NO.

NO.
IT'S BILLIONAIRE, PHILANTHROPIST, ADVENT--
NO.
THAT'S HOW *YOU* DESCRIBE YOURSELF.
OTHER PEOPLE SAY BROKEN LITTLE BOY WHO--
MY *POINT* IS--

--MY POINT IS I RESPECT YOU SO MUCH.
AND YOU'RE EVEN BETTER AT *THIS*, AT RECOVERY, THAN ME.
BUT I WOULDN'T EVEN *BE* IN RECOVERY IF NOT FOR YOU.

NO.
YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND YOUR WAY.
BUT IT WAS *YOU*--AND BY THE WAY, THE REASON I WOULD FLIRT BACK IS BECAUSE--
I'M SO CHARMING.
YOU *ARE*.


YEAH.
AT *FIRST*.
BUT *THEN*, EVENTUALLY, YOU SEE THE BROKEN BOY INSIDE AND IT'S...NOT SO SEXY.
WELL, TO BE FAIR, A LOT OF WOMEN FIND *THAT* PART OF ME THE MOST ATTRACTIVE.

NOT ANYONE WORTH A DAMN.
MY POINT IS, I RESPECT YOU, TRULY, AND IT'S *SO* HARD TO FIGHT YOU ON THIS THING.
EVEN AFTER RHODEY, EVEN AFTER BANNER...
...IT'S SO HARD TO FIGHT YOU *BECAUSE* I RESPECT YOU. BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.
SO STOP.

BUT...
...YOU'RE SO WRONG ON THIS.
SO WRONG.

WELL...IF BETWEEN NOW AND THEN YOU GET IT THROUGH THAT THICK, BROKEN BOY SKULL OF YOURS THAT MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT BE RIGHT ABOUT SOMETHING...
...GIVE ME A CALL...WE'LL GO TO A MEETING.
OR...

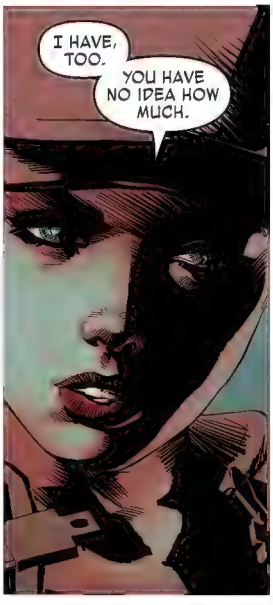
OR YOU REMEMBER I'M SO SMART ABOUT A LOT OF STUFF, I LOVE YOU, AND MAYBE YOU STAND DOWN.
PLEASE.
PLEASE STAND DOWN.
I KNOW IN MY HEART AND IN MY HEAD THAT EVER SINCE WE CAME ACROSS THIS NEW INHUMAN, WE HAVE SAVED LIVES.
WE HAVE SAVED THE PLANET.
YOU KNOW THIS, TOO.

WE HAVE SAVED LIVES.
AND I KNOW YOU HATE TO HEAR THIS, BUT RHODEY WOULD AGREE.
AND I DIDN'T KILL BANNER. I DIDN'T GIVE THE ORDER, BANNER DID.
BANNER TOOK HIMSELF OUT.

THE NEXT TIME WE SEE EACH OTHER IN THE FIELD, IT'S NOT GOING TO GO WELL.

I KNOW.

I MEAN IT, CAROL. I'VE BEEN PULLING MY PUNCHES.

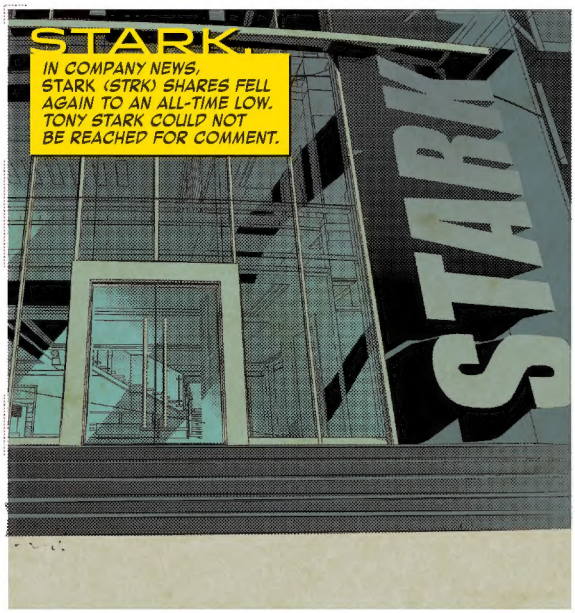

I HAVE, TOO.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MUCH.

YOU'D KILL ME OVER THIS?

I WOULD DEFEND THIS PLANET AGAINST ANYTHING AND ANYONE WHO WOULD POSE A THREAT.
IN FACT, I TOOK A VOW THAT SAID EXACTLY THAT.
WHY YOU FEEL THE NEED TO CHALLENGE MY COMMITMENT IS BIZARRE.
SO, OUT OF YOUR LOVE FOR ME, STAND DOWN.
GO FIX YOUR COMPANY, GO FIX YOUR LIFE.
LEAVE THE REST OF IT TO ME.

NO.
STOP.

--AND IT JUST GIVES MY PARENTS THIS *CARTE BLANCHE* TO BLAME EVERYTHING I HAVE EVER DONE, THAT THEY DON'T AGREE WITH, ON MY DRINKING.
AND I'M LIKE, NO, SOMETIMES YOU'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE IDEA THAT I'M AN ADULT NOW WITH MY OWN THOUGHTS.
AND MY OWN FEELINGS.
I TOLD MY MOTHER: THIS IS JUST ME. THIS IS ***WHO I AM.***
I WAS DRINKING TO COVER IT UP BUT I'M NOT DOING ANY OF THAT ANYMORE.
I'M ME.
THIS IS IT. THIS IS WHO I AM.
DEAL WITH IT.
VERY NICE.
THANK YOU.
WHO WANTS TO GO NEXT?
ANYONE?


STARK.
IN COMPANY NEWS, STARK (STRK) SHARES FELL AGAIN TO AN ALL-TIME LOW. TONY STARK COULD NOT BE REACHED FOR COMMENT.
STARK

TWO WEEKS LATER.

HELLO?

HELLO, I'M FRIDAY, TONY STARK'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT.
CAN I HELP YOU?

YES, I'M HERE TO SEE TONY STARK.
I AM-- WELL, I'M, UM...
...YES, I BELIEVE I AM EXPECTED.

YOU'RE AMANDA ARMSTRONG.
YOU ARE HIS BIOLOGICAL MOTHER.

YES.
TONY ASKED ME TO VISIT.
HE ASKED ME TO MEET HIM HERE SO WE CAN...I WAS GOING TO SAY RECONNECT, BUT WE NEVER ACTUALLY EVER CONNECTED IN THE FIRST PLACE.
SO I'M HERE TO... CONNECT.
I'M SORRY. I'M SO NERVOUS.
UM...
CAN I SPEAK TO HIM?
YES.
YOU ARE ON HIS PERSONAL CALENDAR.
I SEE THAT NOW.
YOU'RE... NOT...A-ARE YOU A PERSON?
MY NAME IS FRIDAY.
I AM AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, PROGRAMMED BY YOUR SON.
HE MADE YOU?
I'M SORRY.
THERE'S BEEN A... DEVELOPMENT.
IS TONY OKAY?
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE NEWS?
NO.
WHAT--WHAT HAPPENED?
TO BE CONTINUED IN... CIVIL WAR II AND INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #1!

SOCK IT TO SHELL-HEAD!

Send letters to **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** and don't forget to mark them **"OKAY TO PRINT!"**

And that's curtains on this run of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN, but our story is far from over! Brian and Stefano Caselli will turn Riri Williams into Ironheart in INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #1, and Brian will also reunite with INTERNATIONAL IRON MAN artist Alex Maleev to tell Doom's story in INFAMOUS IRON MAN #1. But where's Tony? Keep reading CIVIL WAR II to find out!

Aaaand that's enough plugging—let's get to your letters!

I am very much enjoying the current Invincible Iron Man book. I'm even okay with the Riri Williams subplot and her becoming Iron Man. It feels refreshing and I'm interested to see where that goes. I have to hand it to Bendis, I think his work to make comics a more inclusive place is something we need (especially in today's world) and I can't respect him enough for that.

I do regret to inform you that I have a few minor complaints however, but I hope they'll just be taken as more of constructive criticism.

I picked up issue #12 of this series and was a little confused as to why Stark Tower fell. Then I had to go online and do research and discovered it happened in some issue of UNCANNY INHUMANS. Generally, I feel like you should be able to just follow a comic and get the full story it's trying to tell without having to read some other issue of INHUMANS. Crossover events I understand (CIVIL WAR II is AWESOME) but this is another title that I wouldn't have otherwise known to buy. But all in all, I'm loving the book. MAKE MINE MARVEL.

Jack Piaskoski

The Stark Tower thing is our bad, Jack—I should have added an editor's note or something. Sometimes we put these things out so fast that we forget that readers don't have access to all the information we do. For those interested, Stark Tower is taken down by a couple of rogue Inhumans in UNCANNY INHUMANS #11 in retaliation for Tony kidnapping Ulysses from New Attilan!

This new INVINCIBLE IRON MAN run is a mixed bag, but I think I like it overall. Will you bring any old-school characters from the past, like Mrs. Arbogast, Bethany Cabe, Abe Zimmer, etc? Or maybe old villains like Controller, Spymaster, Ultimo, Justin Hammer, Mandarin? One of the things that I really love about Kurt Busiek's run and hate about all the future runs, is that Kurt Busiek introduced us to the character of Rumiko Fujikawa, who I think, was the best love interest that Stark ever had. She is Tony Stark's Gwen Stacy. When she died, her death should have affected the life of Tony Stark and his persona in general. But after the IRON MAN series was relaunched with Warren Ellis's "Extremis" story, Rumiko was never mentioned again. Why is that? It really pisses me off. I would rather see a continuation of that storyline instead of this new story about Stark and MJ, which I don't find that interesting.

Anthony Vanki

Hey Anthony! The truth is that different writers are interested in different parts of a character's history, and if they held on to everything that happened to a character, no one would be able to jump into a new run without reading everything that came before. Wait long enough and a writer could come onto IRON MAN who's interested in revisiting Rumiko. Maybe it could even be you! And if it's any consolation, it's not like INVINCIBLE IRON MAN's Tony is exactly a happy and well-adjusted adult.

I'd like to see Riri Williams fight the Mandarin! :-) Think about it: she's this science wiz, so she'd probably have some way to counter the rings. But just as she thinks she's won and starts bragging, Mandarin whips out the chi magic and starts karate-chopping her armor to pieces. It would be a great wake-up call for her, learning that science doesn't have all the answers, and some of these IRON MAN villains have powers that you can't just science-wiz your way out of. Iron Man uses experience and savvy and sheer grit to beat the layers of science and mysticism and martial arts skill and sheer savagery that Mandarin brings to the table. Riri only has one part of that so far, so this would be a great trial-by-fire for her, and very humbling as well.

Liam Tibodaux

Is that you again, Mandarin Fan? Well, Liam, Riri's got a lot of exciting challenges in her future as the newest member of the Iron Family—you never know what we'll throw at her next!

Wow, I have been reading IRON MAN from the very beginning, and yes I mean the VERY beginning (TALES OF SUSPENSE #39). Bendis has brought this title to a new all-time high for me, so thanks for that.

A few thoughts on #11: The huge splash pages of the Avenger/S.H.I.E.L.D. assault on the Biohack Ninja HQ was amazing! Mike Deodato must have consumed some awesomesauce on the day he drew that page. I am also pleased to see that Marvel has adopted a gender-neutral restroom policy (see Tony Stark and Ms. Marvel's conversation in the loo). Or do I more appropriately say gender/hero/species/lifeform-neutral restroom policy?

Keep up the great work. It is very much appreciated.

Thanks,
Glen Schafer (aka Glenicus)

Ha! As much as I'd like to claim it was intentionally progressive, Glen, Ms. Marvel did enter the restroom as Rhodey.

Hey guys! It's quite intimidating writing in since I'm a first-time reader of comics, but your amazing series has made me a fan and avid reader. I get embarrassingly excited each month thinking about the next installment! Just a heads-up, if you ever need a vaguely exotic city for a scene, the place I live seems like a pretty good candidate. ;)

Cheers from Singapore,
Gloria Lin

Welcome to comics, Gloria! I hope you read many more! And we go all over the place in IRON MAN—you never know when we could fly by Singapore!

Hey Alanna,

Another cool issue with Brian and Mike making a potential hostile boardroom takeover exciting. Who said comics are juvenile? I enjoyed Matt Fraction's IRON MAN, thinking that would be a difficult act to follow, but both of Bendis' IM titles show him back at the top of his game.

Cheers,
Bruce Marsh
Quite 'Nuff Sayer

Thanks, Bruce! Office meetings in the Marvel Universe are WAY more exciting than office meetings in Marvel HQ, as it turns out...

Dear writers of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN,

I should have written this sooner, but I just wanted to say how absolutely in love I am with this series, especially with the character of Dr. Amara Perera. I'm a Sri Lankan who grew up in Dubai, and so to see a character that is Sri Lankan (and one that Tony met at a conference in Dubai nonetheless!) has honestly meant so much to me. I'm constantly finding myself thinking about when the next issue will come out and being able to follow this story from the beginning has been riveting. I hope there will be more of Amara to look forward to!

Kind regards,
Charulatha Pitigala

Hey Charulatha! (YOUR NAME IS SO COOL.) We love Amara too, and you'll be seeing her a lot more in INFAMOUS IRON MAN!

I'm a big fan of Iron Man, I'm enjoying the new story and I'm interested to see how Tony deals with his business basically collapsing around him. The part a few issues ago when Tony visited the children in the hospital made me think back to some earlier runs of IRON MAN and I was wondering if you are going to include more things like this in the future. We haven't seen places like The Haven in a while, and I think Tony's more charitable side hasn't really been shown much in the last few years. I have to say, I'm loving the addition of characters like Amara, Riri and Victor Von Doom. I'm not sure why I like Victor so much, but he has surprisingly become one of my favorite characters in this book! Anyway, I hope to see more good work in the future!

Thank you,
Caoimhe Chambers

Victor's pretty much the best, Caoimhe! How can you not love his dry wit and snappy suit? Be sure to check out INFAMOUS IRON MAN for even MORE Doom! (Also WHY DOES LIKE EVERYONE ON THIS LETTERS PAGE HAS A COOLER NAME THAN ME?) (Congrats on your very cool name.)

Let us know what you think of this run, as well as our girl, Riri Williams—I'll be back for the new run of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN and I'll need all the letters I can get! Until next time...

-The Invincible Alanna Smith

THE STORY CONTINUES IN...